

# Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month

May 1 - 31, 2021

The Civil Rights Division is recognizing Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month



## Employee Spotlight



### Yingying Wang

Database Administrator - INT\*, Information Technology Division.

She loves running, hiking, fishing, cooking, and reading the Bible. She has been involved in two running and exercise teams, which have encouraged her to stay fit and active.

Joined TDOT Family August 2016

#### **Tell us about a moment in Asian American History that influenced or shaped your career/life?**

Min H. Kao is an Asian-American who cofounded Garmin (a pioneer GPS device manufacturer) with Gary Burrell in 1989, and who earned a doctorate in electrical engineering from the University of Tennessee in 1977. Garmin has greatly influenced our everyday lives and businesses. We even have GPS application available through our smartphones. What a great teamwork!

#### **Who within or outside TDOT has been influential in your career? Are they a mentor today?**

There have been so many professionals, supervisors, directors within TDOT who have inspired me. They have made the TDOT department like my second home, a melting pot home. My supervisor and directors have been so supportive, encouraging, and considerate to me. I am so blessed to be part of the TDOT family.

#### **Which of the TDOT Values (Stewardship, Integrity, Safety, Consistency, Development, Innovation, Collaboration & Family) that are listed within the Strategic Plan, resonates with you and with diversity? State why?**

All TDOT values resonate with me, especially collaboration and family. We need each other. I truly believe together we are stronger.

#### **Why is it important to recognize Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month, especially in 2021?**

It is important that we continue to celebrate Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month in 2021 in order to pass on and remember the contributions, cultures, invention, and legacies of Asian Americans who, as part of other Americans, have helped build and unite America in successive generations.